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NOTES: RESOLUTIONS OF THE CIVIC FEDERATION.

each child. If, in the best interests of all, it is possible to rescue the child without commitment to an institution, this is done and he is saved to his home and the State at the same time. Of the 11,494 children arraigned in this one court in the year 1909 only 1,792 were committed to institutions, either charitable or reformatory."

Under the caption "reaching the causes of mental deficiency," the report dwells upon the proposed plan for the treatment of children who violate the law because of functional derangements. Finally the report presents the general results of a personal observation of more than seventy thousand cases of children who have been before the court.

Uniform Criminal Laws. It is encouraging to note the interest that is beginning to be taken by many organizations and societies in the movement for reform of criminal law and procedure in this country. One of the latest to fall in line is the National Civic Federation, which, at its recent conference on uniform state legislation, adopted the following resolutions:

"WHEREAS, the system in vogue for the trial of causes in the criminal, equity and law courts of the United States and of the several States is the subject of much current discussion, both lay and professional, and is severely criticized for its technicalities and its useless expense and delay; and

"WHEREAS, the matter of procedural reform is receiving the thoughtful consideration of the American Bar Association through a special committee created for that purpose; therefore be it

"Resolved, That this conference recognizes the need for radical changes in the administration of the law both in criminal and civil action;

"Resolved, That a committee of fifteen on Reform in Legal Procedure be created and appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Uniform Legislation of the National Civic Federation, and that such committee be instructed to coöperate with the Committee of the American Bar Association to suggest remedies and formulate proposed laws to prevent delay and unnecessary cost in litigation, and to use the influence and power of The National Civic Federation to simplify, cheapen and expedite judicial procedure."

The committee authorized by the last resolution has been appointed by Mr. Alton B. Parker and consists of the following persons: Ralph W. Breckenridge, Omaha; Morgan J. O'Brien, New York; William E. Chandler, New Hampshire; John B. Sanborn, Madison, Wis.; Selden P. Spencer, St. Louis, Mo.; Stephen H. Allen, Kansas; Charles Jewett, New Albany, Ind.; Thomas W. Shelton, Norfolk, Va.; Stephen S. Gregory, Chicago; Willard Saulsbury, Wilmington, Del.; Amasa M. Eaton, Providence, R. I.; Lawrence Cooper, Huntsville, Ala.; Henry Wade Rogers, New Haven, Conn.; George Turner, Spokane, Wash., and T. E. MacIntire, Georgia.

The Night-Riders Set Free by Technicalities. The *Memphis Commercial-Appeal*, in a recent issue, indulges in a severe criticism of the decision of the Tennessee supreme court nullifying the convictions in the recent night-rider cases. The court, in the name of the law, we are told, invalidated everything the law did and throttled justice, without ever entering into the merits of the case. It did not discuss the evidence against the defendants, nor inquire whether the evidence warranted a conviction; but simply held that the technical forms of the law were not properly observed in the selection